

THE COLUMNS

July 2020, Volume 58, Issue 7

First Presbyterian Church, Waynesboro, VA



First Presbyterian Church of Waynesboro is a community-minded congregation living out the love of Christ as we serve one another with humility, gentleness, and patience through God's grace.

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Audio Broadcast Until July 5

Video Broadcast July 12 until further notice

Church Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday - 8:00 - noon

Thursday - 8:00 - 1:00

Friday - Closed



MUSIC NOTES



Here we are in the heart of the summer, listening to the birds sing, feeling the warmth of the sun and seeing the lightning bugs (aka fireflies) rise from the grass at dusk. These beauties of the season continue to remind us of the glories of God's creation.

How we look forward to seeing you again in person someday! But in lieu of getting together face to face, you will at least see and hear services from our lovely Sanctuary, beginning this month.

Sunday 5 July is the final combined Waynesboro Presbyterian online service. We are so grateful to Rev. April Cranford at Westminster for spearheading the efforts to provide worship services during the pandemic. For over three months, Presbyterians from FPC, Second, Westminster, Smyrna and Hermitage have contributed to the services each week. This unified effort has served so many who have been worshipping at home. We have been honored - and humbled - to have coordinated the musical aspects of these services. Our gratitude extends to Director of Music at Westminster, Bettie Tindall, organist, Sue Wright and their associates. Our own Cathy Cunningham and Paul Jones added their gifts. Glenn Fields from Second Presbyterian also provided music. We are fortunate that FPC elder Jen Jones will provide the musical offering for the first Sunday of July, *Let There Be Peace on Earth*. And since it is the day after Independence Day, patriotic music will be part of the service. The McHale Duo (Micheal Hogeson and Justina Nadal) which has contributed music to several services, will provide the anthem, the Daggys will sing *America the Beautiful* for the closing hymn and Roger will play *The Star-Spangled Banner* for the postlude.

Starting on Sunday 12 July, FPC will present online services recorded in our Sanctuary with social distancing measures in place. The Chair of the Worship Committee, Joyce Tipton, has engaged Rev. Wray Sherman to initially lead services. The music, liturgy and sermon will all be recorded separately by Craig Cavanaugh, who will then work his magic to put the services together. The amount of effort required to bring these services to our website is immense. It always takes much longer to record something than to "do it live," and Craig is to be commended for all that he brings to this work. Thank you, Craig! Bruce Bosselman will ensure that the services will be posted on the FPC website by Sunday morning.

For 12 July, Rev. Sherman has chosen the parable of the Sower. With sowing and reaping in mind, we will include the hymn *For the Fruits of this Creation* in our first video FPC service. The theme of opening ourselves to the word of the Lord continues with the hymn *Open My Eyes, That I May See*.

The following Sunday, 19 July, Rev. Sherman will preach on Jacob's Ladder, from Genesis 28:10-19a, so the service will, of course, include the spiritual *Jacob's Ladder*. The passage from Genesis also includes the text "Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place," and Lanny Wolfe's rendition of God's word, composed in 1977, will be part of that Sunday's musical offerings.

Please let us know what you think of the online video services. They are a work in progress and, like so much in life, can benefit from the observations of others!

May you find peace in the love of God during these uncertain times.

Blessings -

Roger and Kimberlea Daggy



JULY 4 - FEDERAL HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The Declaration of Independence was an official act taken by all 13 American colonies in declaring independence from British rule. It was originally written by Thomas Jefferson, but Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Jefferson then worked together to make changes. A final draft was adopted on July 4, 1776, but the actual signing of the final document took place on August 2, 1776.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Some Fourth of July History

- July 4, 1776 - Jefferson noted in his "Weather Memorandum Book" that the weather was cloudy, the temperature 76 degrees.
- July 4, 1826 - Both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, signers of the Declaration of Independence who each later became president, died on the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the declaration.
- July 4, 1884 - The Statue of Liberty was formally presented to the U.S. by France.
- July 4, 1911 - It was a hot Fourth of July in New England. All-time state records were set in Nashua, NH (106) and Vernon, VT (105).

Some Fourth of July Trivia

- Why is the name "John Hancock" synonymous with "your signature?" Hancock's bold signature on the Declaration of Independence dwarfed the signature of the other signers. Legend says Hancock wanted the king of England to see the rebellious signature without having to wear his spectacles!
- How many people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4? Only 2 - John Hancock, president of the Congress, and Charles Thompson, secretary of the Congress.
- What day did most people sign? August 7, 1776.
- When did Independence Day become a national holiday? 1938
- Where is the Declaration of Independence document today? Jefferson's original draft was lost. The one eventually signed is the "engrossed" document kept at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., for all to see. Of the 200 printed versions made, only 27 are accounted for. One of these was found in the back of a picture frame at a tag sale and sold at auction for \$8.14 million to television producer Norman Lear. It has travelled the country to be displayed to the public.
- Where was George Washington when the Declaration of Independence was written?
He was in New York with his troops. On July 9 he received his copy with a note from John Hancock telling him to share the news with his soldiers. They were so excited that they rushed over to the Bowling Green and tore down the statue of King George III. Shortly after this, the British, as Washington expected, attacked the colonists and the American Revolution was under way. The colonists fought eight long, hard years (1775-1783) for their independence from Britain.

After the war was over, Washington hoped he could retire and return to Mt. Vernon. Instead, in 1789, the electors unanimously voted him the first president of the United States. Because it was such an honor and he felt a great duty to his country, he accepted. Members of his first Cabinet included Thomas Jefferson as secretary of state and Alexander Hamilton as secretary of the treasury.

(selected portions from www.almanac.com/content/independence-day-fourth-of-july)



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

A Stated Session Meeting was held June 9, 2020, via Zoom.

- Note. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, church services and most meetings have been cancelled, our Preschool is closed, and all activities are “on hold” until further notice as people are self-isolated.
- Moderator Sarah Wolf from Covenant PC in Staunton opened and closed the meeting with prayer.
- Session charged Preschool Principal Thomas Sheffey and his staff to come up with a plan for reopening our Preschool.
- Small Business Administration Payroll Protection Program Loan: The loan/grant of \$18,800 has been received.
- Bagged lunches continue to be available to clients at Disciples’ Kitchen. Groceries are delivered to the cars of FPC Food Bank clients, whose number is increasing.
- The P&M Committee is pursuing options to replace the boiler.
- No worship services have been held since March 8. A Presbyterian audio online service including FPC participants will continue through June (later changed - through July 5).
- FPC plans to begin Sunday services on our website starting July 12.
- Session accepted a gift from Dana Quillen of her mother’s baby grand piano. This piano will replace the one in the Barksdale Room which will be moved upstairs to the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra storage area.
- Session approved refunding \$700 to the Symphony for rehearsal space.
- Session approved forwarding the June 5 letter on Racism from Presbytery to church members. Jen Jones volunteered to write a cover letter.
- The Interim Search Committee will restart its search.

PRESBYTERY & GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEWS

Shenandoah Presbytery held a short practice meeting by Zoom on June 30. This was in preparation for a regular Presbytery meeting via Zoom on August 22. A pre-recorded worship service preceded some voting and announcements and the meeting was adjourned in 38 minutes.

The 224th General Assembly was conducted online June 19, 26 & 27. The theme was “From Lament to Hope” and the meeting focused on Lamentations 5:20-21: “Why do you forget us forever? Why do you forsake us for so long? Turn us around and bring us back to you again! That is our only hope! Give us back the joys we used to have!”

Almighty and everlasting God,

We know that you are good, that you are trustworthy, that you are generous, that you are loving and that you are holy. These attributes describe a God in whom we put our faith.

But Lord, right now we face a double pandemic: One pandemic virus infects our health and is permeating our world; another pandemic is a virus of racism and bigotry that permeates our nation. Violence in our world reflects a broken social contract in our country.

Our hearts are aching and confused. We need you now more than ever.

We lament the lives lost. We cry out that you might heal our land from the many viruses that are plaguing us. May we have the strength to act in ways that reflect your love for us.

Be with us. Heal us. Hear our prayerful cry. Amen

WHO WAS RUTH METZEL?

You may have noticed that recently Ruth Metzel has been on our Kneeling Notes. When I was advised that she had died, I decided to check out this lady and find out why her name was so familiar.

Ruth Patterson Phipps Metzel was a retired career mission worker with the PC(USA) and resided with her husband, Bill, at Sunnyside Presbyterian Community in Harrisonburg. She died March 21, 2020, at the age of 93.

Ruth was born in Princeton, WV, but grew up in Waynesboro! She had a brother, the late Rev. William “Bill” Phipps, and a sister LaVelle. Yes, our own member LaVelle Phipps Pool. We haven’t seen Lavelle recently, but she was a regular on Monday mornings in the Receptionist Office for many years. (I chat occasionally with her son who works at Kroger.) A celebration of Ruth’s life will be held later at Mount Horeb Presbyterian Church in Grottoes where her father, the Rev. Charles Henry Phipps, pastored for 20 years.

Another connection with FPC is the William Sheppard Memorial Scholarship Fund established by the Metzels in 1964. This scholarship honors the distinguished missionary to the Congo (1890) who grew up in Waynesboro and had worked as a janitor at FPC. The Fund assists black students in educational pursuits.

The Metzels served in the Congo for more than 30 years. Ruth’s honorary Tshiuba name translates as “a person of compassion and love for all people.” Besides teaching high school math, she started projects to teach women sewing, reading and writing. She helped in running girls’ dormitories so they could go to school. The Metzels established a home and school for homeless street children as volunteers, returning to Congo when they were in their 70s to get these projects going.

Back in the states the Metzels were called to churches in Winchester, Petersburg and Westfield, NC. Bill served as pastor and Ruth was a strong partner for Christian Education, visitation and hospitality. They retired to Richmond before moving to Sunnyside.

I’ve enjoyed researching this remarkable lady and feel almost as though I knew her. I wish I had!
~Betsy Ruehl





Register Now!

Presbytery-Wide Interactive Bible Study of Matthew 25

Join us on ZOOM

Wednesdays in July: 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, at 10-11 am.

Shenandoah Presbytery voted to become a Matthew 25 Presbytery last year. Matthew 25 contains 3 stories: The Story of the Wise and Foolish Women; the Story of the Talents; and the Story of the Sheep and the Goats.

We will spend the first 2 weeks looking at the Gospel of Matthew, and then spend the last 3 sessions looking at the stories of Matthew 25. We will meet for the Bible Study on Zoom for approximately 1 hour, for 5 Wednesdays in July. A link to join the Zoom Bible Study session will be emailed by the Presbytery to those who register.

These Bible Study sessions are for all: pastors; congregation members; interested readers. Join us for all - or just some if you can't make all the sessions. These Bible Studies are interactive, so you are welcome to join/think out loud/read through Matthew together. The sessions will be recorded for those who cannot join us at that time, to be viewed later. A study guide will be sent out each week.

TO REGISTER: please contact the Presbytery at shenpres@shenpres.org

CHRISTIAN ONE LINERS

Don't let your worries get the better of you.
Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

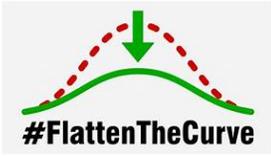
Opportunity may knock once,
but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Some minds are like concrete:
Thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

We are called to be witnesses, not lawyer or judges.

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called.

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.



REQUESTS FOR FACE MASKS!!



Do you sew? Our Food Bank attendees could use some face masks! Both adult and children's sizes would be fantastic.

It would be great to have many masks so that these folks have reusable protective gear to wear when they are out-and-about.

The Food Bank continues to collect food donations for folks in need during this time. We are grateful for the food that is currently cost-free from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Masks, non-perishable food items and toiletries/personal care items (diapers, pads, toilet paper, etc.) can be dropped off during church office hours.

Thank you!!!!

- Jen Jones, Missions Chair

FIFTY WAYS TO BEAT COVID-19

Don't hop on the bus, Gus,
Stay away from the pack, Jack,
Sneeze into your sleeve, Steve,
To keep virus free.

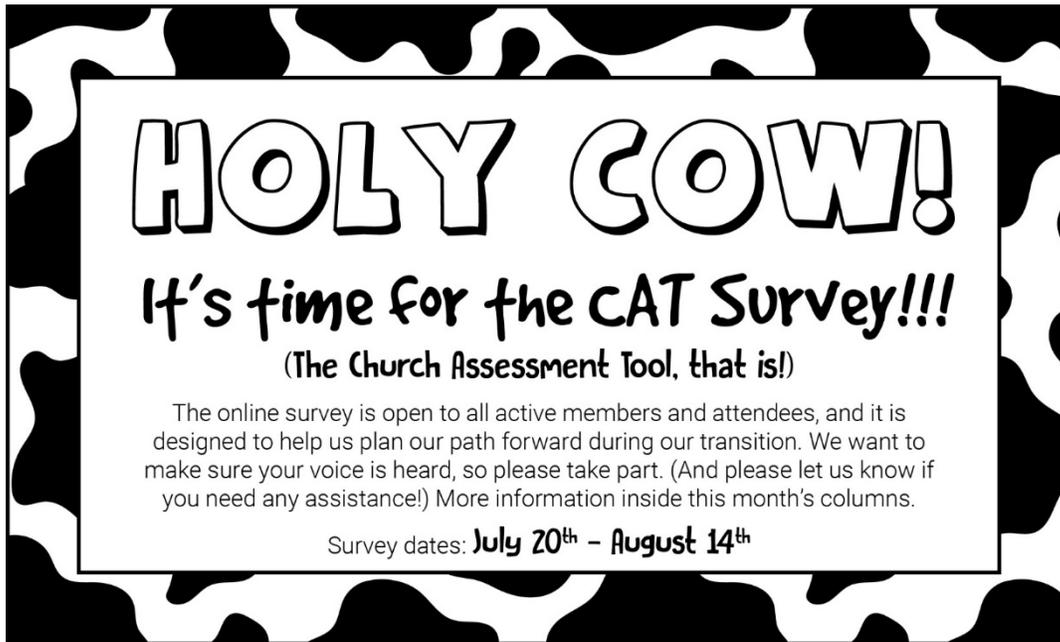
Stop touching your face, Grace,
Stay back to six feet, Pete,
Keep washing your hands, Stan,
And heed CDC.

Don't visit your Gran, Jan,
Wipe down every toy, Roy,
Don't hoard all the food, dude,
Please buy sensibly.

Just use some Purell, Mel,
Keep wipes near at hand, man,
Don't listen to John, Don -
You don't need more TP!

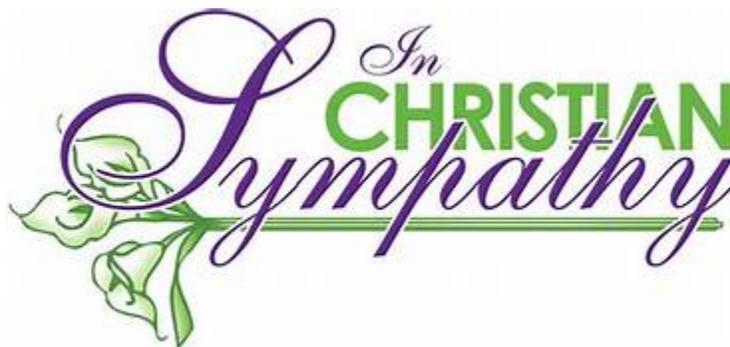
This isn't Spring Break, Jake,
Stay home if you're sick, Dick,
And follow the rules, fools,
And stay virus free!

(Borrowed from Ruth Quillen's Facebook page)



- The CAT is a customizable assessment instrument that can help you as a leader.
- Measure the level of satisfaction and energy in the congregation you lead.
- Identify the critical success factors for improving organizational climate.
- Pinpoint the strengths of your congregation's culture.
- Discover where members would like to go in the future.
- Gauge readiness for change.
- Uncover potential resources you may be missing.
- Prepare for a search for your next pastor.

The "CAT" team has been meeting to prepare the customized survey. Congregation members will be contacted with the survey within the next couple weeks.



Our sympathies to the family of William "Bill" Simpson who died on June 16, 2020.



July 2 Mary June Cook
July 4 Mike Cunningham
July 9 Mary Ultee
July 10 Edie Lawrence
July 18 Earlene Templeman
July 21 Ruth Quillen
July 31 Bill Kiser

July 7 Don & Jeanne Hashagen
July 7 Randy & Nancy Hypes
July 17 Roger & Kimberlea Daggy



Editor—Betsy Ruehl (etruehl@ntelos.net) Layout—Colleen Cash Reporters—Members of the Congregation & Staff
COLUMNS Mailing List

During the pandemic the newsletter is being mailed to members and friends. Please remember to give your new address to the Church Office when you move. We do not want you to miss any of the Church news. Just contact the Church Office (949-8366 or church@firstpresway.com) *Sermons, bulletins and many Columns articles can be found on the church website:*

firstpresway.org Deadlines: **COLUMNS**: 20th of the month



Prayers for Health and Other Concerns:

The Legacy: Eloise Morris

Lodge at Old Trail: Mary Frost

It was reported that Mary had a stroke and is recovering at UVA
Shenandoah Nursing Home: Rubye Schwab

Summit Square: Ruth Quillen, Lillian Hryshkanych

Home: Dick Huff, Nancy Garber, Mary Ultee, Edie Lawrence,
Steve Doherty

Friends and Family: Kaiser family (Anne Harris), Andy & Jean
Robeson, Wanda Braden, Lucy Colbert, Charlie Fairchilds,
(Cunninghams), Nancy Vilain, Chris Davenport (Jen Jones),
Danny Smith (Nancy Hypes), Jennifer & Charlotte Sergeant
(Kathy Brown), Emily Bardeen (Sandi Henderson), Sara
Verwymeren (Hashagens), Kathy Doyle (Cindy & Rodger Doyle),
Peter Johnson, Lawrence Maddox, Joan Blazek, Glenn Fields, Sr.
(Jen Jones), Jim & Pat Lewis (Sandy Bellamy), Bill Metzel (Joyce
Tipton), Grayson Coleman, Tony Poplin (Colleen Cash),
Marianna Callaway (Ruth Kelley)

Military: Jeremiah Henderson, Carson Craig

Missionaries: Elmarie & Scott Parker, PC(USA) Regional
Liaisons to Iraq, Syria & Lebanon

June Calendar

Thursday, July 9

2-4 PM Food Bank

Tuesday, July 14

2:30 PM Session Zoom Meeting

Thursday, July 23

2-4 PM Food Bank

Mailing Address

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540.949.5750

E-mail

church@firstpresway.com

Website

www.firstpresway.org

Church Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday

8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Colleen Cash
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Preschool Director

Mr. Thomas Sheffey
preschool@firstpresway.com

Director of Music

Mr. Roger Daggy
firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com

Music Associate

Mrs. Kimberlea Daggy
firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com

Audio/Visual Technician

Mr. Craig Cavanaugh

Maintenance Technician

Mr. Michael Griffith

Custodian

Mrs. Caroleia Strandberg

Child Care Attendants

Nate & Karalyn Rudin

BEGINNING JULY 12

**SUNDAY MORNING ONLINE SERVICES
RECORDED IN OUR OWN SANCTUARY**

CHECK OUT WWW.FIRSTPRESWAY.ORG

